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Attorney Docket No.: MCA-470

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ralph Stankowski

SERIAL NO.: 09/660,795

FILED: 09/13/2000

EXAMINER: Robert J. Popovics

GROUP ART UNIT: 1724

TITLE: PROCESS AND FILTER FOR FILTERING A SLURRY

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action of July 3, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks. Please amend the application as follows.

CLAIMS WITH CHANGES

5. (Amended) The process for filtering a slurry to remove undesirably large particles from said slurry which comprises passing a slurry through an inlet to a filtration cartridge, through a conduit positioned within a filtration cartridge comprising the conduit, a housing, a depth filter positioned within said housing and an outlet and from said conduit through [a] said depth filter, said cartridge being free of an open void volume which causes separation of particles from said slurry upstream of said depth filter, said depth filter comprising depth filter segments separated by annular spacers and recovering a filtered slurry which has passed through said depth filter from said outlet of said filtration cartridge.

REMARKS

Claims 5-9 have been rejected under 35 USC 112 for use of the phrase "said cartridge being free of an open void volume upstream of said depth filter". This phrase has been amended to add after "volume", -which causes separation of particles from said slurry-. As pointed out by the Examiner, the volume through

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